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LINKAGES AMONG AND SUPPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENVIRONMENT-RELATED CONVENTIONS

Programmatic support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme to environmental conventions

Report of the Executive Director

Summary

This report describes the support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to environmental and environment-related conventions, particularly those which held conferences of their parties in 1998. The functional restructuring of UNEP in accordance with the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, adopted on 7 February 1997, has enhanced its ability to provide value additional programmatic support to the substantive work of the conventions in the following areas: assessment and monitoring; policy development; environmental law; development and application of economic instruments and tools for environmental management; development of methodologies and guidelines; information and public awareness; integrated environmental planning and management; technology transfer; and corresponding implementation of pilot projects. The Governing Council may wish to consider endorsing a more proactive role for UNEP, especially in regard to providing programmatic support for catalysing, first, collaboration among conventions in thematic areas of common concern and, second, the elements in the programmes of work of conventions that are complementary to the areas of concentration of the restructured environment programme.

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Suggested action by the Governing Council

The Governing Council may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

Bearing in mind United Nations General Assembly resolution S-19/2 of 28 June 1997, on the Programme for the Further Development of Agenda 21, and its decision 52/445 of 18 December 1997, on progress in the implementation of conventions relating to sustainable development,

Bearing in mind also Governing Council decisions 19/1 of 7 February 1997, on the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme and SS.V/2 of 22 May 1998, on the revitalization, reform and strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Director on, programmatic support from the United Nations Environment Programme to environmental conventions (UNEP/GC.20/17), strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting collaboration among conventions (UNEP/GC.20/16), and, promoting interlinkages among global environmental issues and human needs (UNEP/GC.20/40),

1. Encourages the Executive Director to enter into arrangements with environmental conventions and their secretariats for the provision to the United Nations Environment Programme of technical and scientific expertise in support of their respective programmes of work;

2. Requests the relevant conventions and their secretariats to explore with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme areas of cooperation in support of the implementation of their respective programmes of work, taking into account the scientific and technical expertise contained in the United Nations Environment Programme;

3. Urges the conferences of parties to environmental conventions to support the establishment of programmatic interlinkages between the programmes of work of their conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme;

4. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session on the steps taken to implement the present decision.

I. BACKGROUND

1. Over the past decade, UNEP has contributed significantly at the global, regional and national levels to the implementation of global environmental conventions, such as the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (1985) and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1987), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification particularly in Africa (1994) and, to a lesser extent, to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (1973), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979) and the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (1989).

2. Similarly, UNEP has supported regional conventions, including the Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Flora and Fauna (1994) and a number of regional seas conventions.

3. The latter include: the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (1976), the Kuwait Regional Convention for Cooperation on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Pollution (1978), the Lima Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Area of the South-East Pacific (1981), the Abidjan Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (1981), the Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment (1982), the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (1983), the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (1986), and the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Coastal and Marine Environment in the Eastern African Region (1985). Since the initial negotiation of these conventions, UNEP continues to provide technical, scientific, and, when appropriate, financial support to their programmes of work.

4. UNEP deployed its scientific and technical expertise for convening and facilitating negotiations that led to the signing of eight global and twelve regional environmental conventions and related international agreements, 1/ and is currently assisting the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee that is working on the development of a global legally binding instrument on persistent organic pollutants (POPs). During the early years of these conventions and agreements, UNEP continued to nurture their development and implementation by providing needed scientific and technical support with the corresponding financial assistance. Longer-term programmatic support has been particularly necessary in the case of the regional seas conventions and action plans, as well as the Lusaka Agreement, whose Parties consist primarily of developing countries. The financial crisis that faced the organization from 1995 to 1997, resulted, however, in a dramatic reduction in

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1/ Included among the eight global conventions and agreements is the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, a soft legal instrument that is implemented largely through the regional seas conventions and action plans.

programmatic support to environmental conventions, particularly to the more vulnerable regional seas conventions in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia.

5. The scientific linkages underpinning environmental conventions and the imperative of holistic, integrated approaches to the protection of the environment call for deliberate actions by the governing bodies and secretariats of UNEP and multilateral environmental agreements to foster programmatic collaboration.

II. UNEP PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTIONS

6. UNEP has an extensive track record in providing programmatic support to global and regional environmental conventions. It is not possible in this paper to detail all of these contributions for all global and regional environmental conventions. The following paragraphs, highlight some of the programmatic support that UNEP has provided to four global conventions and to the regional seas conventions and action plans, and which is indicative of the kind of support it is capable of contributing in the future.

7. Support in promoting public awareness and in disseminating information on global conventions is provided by the UNEP Information Unit on Conventions (IUC) to conventions such as those on biological diversity, climate change and desertification.

8. UNEP also supports the broad spectrum of conventions by providing legal advice to Governments on the development of complementary national legislation for meeting their obligations under those conventions. A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in this area in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia and the Pacific.

A. Convention on Biological Diversity

9. There have been a number of major initiatives undertaken by UNEP in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity since it entered into force in 1994. These include, inter alia, the following:

(a) Preparation of guidelines for national biodiversity planning in collaboration with the World Resources Institute (WRI) and IUCN - the World Conservation Union;

(b) Assisting Governments in the preparation of biodiversity country studies, strategies and action plans;

(c) Preparation of the Global Biodiversity Assessment;

(d) Strengthening of national capacities through the Biodiversity Data Management project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF);

(e) Organization of the Global Biodiversity Forums with IUCN and WRI;

(f) Development and application of the UNEP International Technical Guidelines for Safety in Biotechnology;

(g) GEF-funded Pilot Biosafety Enabling Activity Project, consisting of 18 national biosafety projects and eight regional workshops on biosafety;

(h) Development and implementation of related environmental law training activities;

(i) Harmonization of national environmental legislation; and

(j) Provision of support through the inter-organizational Ecosystem Conservation Group (UNEP/FAO/UNESCO/IUCN). 2/

B. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

10. One of the major contributions by UNEP was the establishment, jointly with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). IPCC assesses the state of existing knowledge about the science of climate change; the environmental, economic and social impacts of climate change; and possible response strategies. The assessments of IPCC are presented for the consideration of the Parties of the Framework Convention on Climate Change. UNEP is responsible for Thrust 3 on climate impact assessments and response strategies of the Climate Agenda established in 1993 under the inter-agency World Climate Programme. It is also an active partner in the Global Climate Observing Systems (GCOS) and the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS), that contribute to the Framework Convention by providing scientific information about climate change.

11. Other important initiatives by UNEP include:

(a) Development and testing of methodologies on impact assessment and adaptation, inventories of greenhouse gases, and mitigation;

(b) Building dialogue on activities implemented jointly (AIJ) and the flexible mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol, specifically the clean development mechanism;

(c) Preparation by IUC of the Climate Awareness Programme for the consideration of GEF for funding;

(d) GEF-funded National Communications Support Programme with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);

(e) Capacity-building in Africa through the UNEP Climate Impacts and Response Strategies Network; and

(f) Financial services initiative involving the insurance and banking sectors that is examining the possible impacts of climate change and the need for policy revisions.

C. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

2/ A more detailed account of these initiatives may be found in the report UNEP: A Partner in the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, that was made available at the fourth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in May 1998 in Bratislava.

12. One of the major contributions by UNEP to the Convention to Combat Desertification was the publication in 1997 of the second edition of the World Atlas of Desertification. UNEP has been selected to host the Convention's Regional Coordination Unit for Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be co-located at the UNEP Regional Office in Mexico City. Other contributions to the Convention include:

(a) Country projects in support of the Convention in the Commonwealth of Independent States;

(b) Development of national action programmes;

(c) Training courses in desertification control;

(d) Public awareness-raising;

(e) Promoting subregional cooperation, including action programmes;

(f) GEF-funded project on People, Land Management and Environmental Change, that focuses on conservation of agrodiversity in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and South and Central America;

(g) Two other GEF-funded projects on conserving biological diversity in selected arid and semi-arid areas of Africa; and

(h) Support to the development of a global network of organizations to support the implementation of the convention. 3/

D. The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer

13. UNEP support to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol is effected largely through its OzonAction programme. This programme, which is funded by the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, supports the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances in developing countries through its clearing-house and capacity-building services. It does this by building up local expertise in developing countries, through the provision of information and management tools and by promoting low-cost phase-out of ozone-depleting substances without major investment costs. By the end of 1997, capacity-building was under way in seven regional networks, and 78 country programmes were being implemented.

E. Regional seas conventions and action plans

14. Eleven regional seas conventions and action plans have been negotiated with the help of UNEP, and two others are currently in the process of negotiation. UNEP programmatic support to these conventions and action plans includes:

(a) Development of regional seas action plans;

3/ Further details of these initiatives may be found in the report of the Executive Director on support for the implementation of the Convention (UNEP/GC.20/11).

(b) Development of complementary national plans;

(c) Capacity-building in various aspects of coastal and marine management;

(d) Regional networking of institutions in support of regional seas programmes;

(e) Capacity-building in regional seas planning and management;

(f) Capacity-building in and support to monitoring and assessment of marine pollution;

(g) Provision of legal advisory services in the development of protocols to conventions on subjects such as oil spills, specially protected areas and wildlife, and pollution from land-based activities;

(h) Provision of legal advisory services to Governments for the development of complementary national legislation; and

(i) Integration of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities into the work programmes of the regional seas conventions and action plans.

III. CONCLUSIONS

15. The contributions by UNEP to global and regional environmental conventions, as described above, may be divided into nine categories: first, assessment and monitoring; second, technical support to the development of plans and strategies; third, building dialogue on key environmental policy issues; fourth, networking of organizations, institutions and experts at the global, regional and national levels; fifth, enlisting the support of industry, business and the scientific community in support of the objectives of the convention; sixth, development of guidelines and methodologies; seventh, provision of legal services; eighth, capacity building of a technical and scientific nature covering a broad range of environmental issues; and, ninth, public awareness and information.

16. The revitalized UNEP called for in the Nairobi Declaration should reinforce its efforts to use its scientific and technical expertise to catalyse and support the work of environmental conventions. By their nature, convention secretariats are not implementing bodies. Principal responsibility for the implementation of conventions lies with Governments. An international organization like UNEP can, however, summon the scientific and technical expertise to assist convention secretariats and Governments in achieving the objectives and goals of their conventions. While UNEP support to environmental conventions continues to be substantial, the Executive Director should enter into more structured discussions with conventions and their secretariats for exploring areas for enhancing interlinkages between UNEP and those conventions and agreements.

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POLICY ISSUES: COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

International conventions and protocols in the field of the environment

Report of the Executive Director

Summary

The present report is submitted in response to Governing Council decision 24 (III) of 30 April 1975 which requests the Executive Director to inform the Council at each session of the status of new and existing conventions in the field of the environment, and to General Assembly resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, which requested the Governing Council to keep the General Assembly informed of any new conventions in that field and of the status of existing conventions. The present report covers the period from 11 December 1996 to 10 November 1998. The information contained in the report is provided by Governments and international organizations acting as depositaries to the respective conventions, in response to a request by the UNEP secretariat. It report also takes into account other information received by the UNEP secretariat during the reporting period. Further information on the objectives, provisions, and signatories and parties of about 230 international environment-related agreements will be found in the 1998 edition of the UNEP Register of International Treaties and Other Agreements in the Field of the Environment, to be issued in due course in accordance with Governing Council decisions 16/5 and 18/25.

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Suggested action by the Governing Council

The Governing Council may wish to:

Take note of the present report;

Authorize the Executive Director to transmit it, together with any comments made by delegations on the report, as well as any further information which the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme might receive by 31 May 1999, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, in accordance with resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975;

Call on States that have not yet signed, ratified or acceded to conventions and protocols in the field of the environment to do so;

Call also on States and organizations that are in a position to do so to provide the UNEP secretariat with information on new conventions and protocols in the field of the environment as well as information on any changes to the status of the existing conventions and protocols in the field of the environment.

A. Depositaries

1. The secretariat received from the following Governments and intergovernmental organizations information concerning the status of conventions and protocols for which they serve as depositaries:

Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, United Nations, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Atomic Anergy Agency, International Labour Organization, International Maritime Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations, Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Council of Europe, Council of the European Union, Organization of American States, South Pacific Forum Secretariat.

B. Conventions and protocols that have entered into force

2. The secretariat has been informed that the following international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment have entered into force during the period covered by the present report (11 December 1996-10 November 1998):

(a) Convention Concerning the Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents (ILO Convention No. 174) adopted in Geneva on 22 June 1993 - entered into force on 3 January 1997;

(b) Protocol Amending the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, adopted on 10 July 1984 - entered into force on 19 January 1997;

(c) Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, adopted in Espoo, Finland on 25 February 1991 - entered into force on 10 September 1997;

(d) Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or Their Transboundary Fluxes, adopted in Geneva on 18 November 1991 - entered into force on 29 September 1997;

(e) Convention Concerning Safety and Health in Mines (ILO Convention No. 176), adopted in geneva on 22 June 1995 - entered into force on 5 June 1998;

(f) Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions, adopted in Oslo on 14 June 1994 - entered into force on 5 August 1998.

C. New conventions and protocols

3. The secretariat has been informed that the following international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment were concluded during the period covered by the present report (11 December 1996-10 November 1998):

(a) Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York on 21 May 1997;

(b) Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, adopted in Vienna on 5 September 1997;

(c) Protocol to Amend the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage, adopted in Vienna on 12 September 1997;

(d) Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, adopted in Vienna on 12 September 1997;

(e) Protocol of 1997 to Amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as amended by the Protocol of 1978 Relating Thereto, adopted in London on 26 September 1997;

(f) Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, adopted in Kyoto on 11 December 1997;

(g) Protocol on the Control of Marine Transboundary Movements and Disposal of Hazardous Wastes and Other Wastes, adopted in Tehran on 17 March 1998. It is a protocol to the 1978 Kuwait Regional Convention for Cooperation on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Pollution;

(h) Protocol of Amendment to the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals Used for Experimental and Other Scientific Purposes, adopted in Strasbourg on 22 June 1998;

(i) Protocol to the 1979 Convention on the Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants, adopted in Aarhus, Denmark on 24 June 1998;

(j) Protocol to the 1979 Convention on the Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Heavy Metals, adopted in Aarhus, Denmark on 24 June 1998;

(k) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matter, adopted in Aarhus, Denmark on 25 June 1998;

(l) Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, adopted in Rotterdam on 10 September 1998;

(m) Convention on the Protection of the Environment Through Criminal Law, opened for signature in Strasbourg on 4 November 1998.

D. Changes in the status of existing conventions and protocols

4. Changes which occurred since 11 December 1996 with respect to the status of ratification of, or accession to, existing conventions and protocols may be found in the annexed table, which has been prepared on the basis of information received from the depositaries referred to in paragraph 1 above.

Annex

CHANGES TO THE STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF/ACCESSION TO CONVENTIONS AND PROTOCOLS IN THE FIELD OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Spices of Wild Fauna and Flora, 1973	15 October 1998	144	1 July 1975	Antigua and Barbuda, Cambodia, Fiji, Jamaica, Latvia, Mauritania, Myanmar, Swaziland, Uzbekistan, Yemen.
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, 1979	29 October 1998	56	1 November 1983	Chad, Liechtenstein, Mauritania, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, Uzbekistan.
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, 1985	10 November 1998	169	22 September 1988	Belize, Burundi, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Suriname, Tonga.
Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, 1987	10 November 1998	168	1 January 1989	Belize, Burundi, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tonga.
London Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, 1990	10 November 1998	125	10 August 1992	Botswana, Czech Republic, Iran (Islamic republic of), Latvia, Lithuania, Namibia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Tajikistan, Togo, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.
Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, 1992	10 November 1998	83	14 June 1994	Belgium, Belize, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Togo, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela.
Montreal Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, 1997	10 November 1998	3	Not yet in force	Canada, Chile, Republic of Korea.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, 1989	10 November 1998	122	5 May 1992	Belize, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Colombia, Dominica. Gambia, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Niger, Republic of Moldova, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela.
Amendment to the Basel Convention, 1995	10 November 1998	12	Not yet in force	Denmark, Ecuador, European Community, Luxembourg, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992	10 November 1998	174	29 December 1993	Angola, Burundi, Gabon, Liechtenstein, Namibia, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey.
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992	10 November 1998	177	21 March 1994	Burundi, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Rwanda, Singapore, South Africa, Suriname, Tajikistan, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, Yugoslavia.
Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1997	10 November 1998	2	Not yet in force	Antigua and Barbuda, Fiji.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, 1994	10 November 1998	144	26 December 1996	Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Comoros, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, European Community, Fiji, France, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Niue, Pakistan, Paraguay, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.
Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora, 1994	10 November 1998	6	10 December 1996	Congo, Kenya.
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982	10 November 1998	128	16 November 1994	Benin, Chile, Equatorial Guinea, European Community, Gabon, Guatemala, Lao People's Democratic republic, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Russian Federation, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, 1994	10 November 1998	93	16 November 1994	Benin, Chile, Equatorial Guinea, European Community, Gabon, Georgia, Guatemala, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania.
Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, 1995	10 November 1998	18	Not yet in force	Bahamas, Fiji, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nauru, Norway, Russian Federation, Senegal, Seychelles, Solomon Islands.
Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses, 1997	10 November 1998	4	Not yet in force	Finland, Norway, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic.
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat, 1971	1 October 1998	113	21 December 1975	Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Colombia, Congo, Georgia, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Monaco, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Republic of Korea, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Ukraine.
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972	1 October 1998	155	17 December 1975	Andorra, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Grenada, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Suriname, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as amended, 1978	27 October 1998	105	2 October 1983	Guatemala, Guyana, Malaysia, Mauritania, New Zealand, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Senegal, Sri Lanka.
Protocol of 1997 to Amend the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 Relating thereto, 1997	27 October 1998	1	Not yet in force	Sweden.
International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969	27 October 1998	76	19 June 1975	Antigua and Barbuda, Costa Rica, Guyana, Mozambique.
Protocol [of 1976] to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969, 1976	27 October 1998	54	8 April 1981	Antigua and Barbuda, Costa Rica.
Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969, 1992	27 October 1998	39	30 May 1996	Algeria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Grenada, Ireland, Jamaica, Latvia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela.
International Convention Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution Casualties, 1969	27 October 1998	72	6 May 1975	Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritania.
Protocol Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Pollution by Substances Other Than Oil, 1973, as amended	27 October 1998	41	30 March 1983	Mauritania, South Africa.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971	27 October 1998	52	16 October 1978	Antigua and Barbuda, Colombia, Guyana, Mozambique.
Protocol [of 1976] to the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971, 1976	27 October 1998	34	19 November 1976	Colombia.
Protocol of 1992 to Amend the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971, 1992	27 October 1998	37	30 May 1996	Algeria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Grenada, Ireland, Jamaica, Latvia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela.
1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972, 1996	27 October 1998	2	Not yet in force	Denmark, Germany.
International Convention on Salvage, 1989	27 October 1998	26	14 July 1996	Australia, Croatia, Guyana, Netherlands.
International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, response and Cooperation, 1990	27 October 1998	40	13 May 1995	Brazil, Chile, China, Croatia, Djibouti, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), malaysia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, 1997	13 October 1998	5	Not yet in force	Canada, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Slovakia.
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, 1979	10 November 1998	43	16 March 1983	Armenia, Malta, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Long-term Financing of the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe, 1984	10 November 1998	37	28 January 1988	Latvia, Malta.
Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or Their Transboundary Fluxes, 1988	10 November 1998	26	14 February 1991	Greece.
Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or Their Transboundary Fluxes, 1991	10 November 1998	17	29 September 1997	Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France.

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions, 1994.	10 November 1998	21	5 August 1998	Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, European Community, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, 1991	10 November 1998	24	10 September 1997	Armenia, Canada, European Community, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Poland, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 1992	10 November 1998	23	6 October 1996	Denmark, France, Liechtenstein.
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, 1992	10 November 1998	12	Not yet in force	Armenia, European Community, Germany, Greece, Spain.
Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wild Life to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, 1990	1 October 1998	6	Not yet in force	Colombia, Cuba, Venezuela.
Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1992	1 October 1998	8	Not yet in force	Lithuania.
International Plant Protection Convention, 1951	12 October 1998	97	3 April 1952	Bahamas.

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Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas, 1993	12 October 1998	11	Not yet in force	Namibia.
Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 1993	12 October 1998	16	26 March 1996	Malaysia, Thailand.
International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, 1969	12 October 1998	32	21 March 1969	Croatia, European Community, Italy, Tunisia.
Protocol Amending the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, 1984	12 October 1998	25	19 January 1997	Gabon, Italy.
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 1979	28 October 1998	37	1 June 1982	Czech Republic, Latvia.
European Convention on the Protection of Vertebrate Animals used for Experimental and other Scientific Purposes, 1986	28 October 1998	11	1 January 1991	Netherlands, European Community.
European Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals, 1987	28 October 1998	12	1 May 1992	Czech Republic

Title of the instrument/year of adoption	Reporting period: from 11 Dec.1996 up to:	Total number of those ratified /acceded	Date of entry into force of the instrument	Countries/entities that had ratified/acceded to the instrument during the reporting period
Protocols 1, 2 and 3 to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga), 1986	1 October 1998	Protocol 1: 2 Protocol 2: 4 Protocol 3: 4	11 December 1986	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Convention to Ban the Importation Into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous Wastes and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and management of hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)	1 October 1998	4	Not yet in force	Australia

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